

Customer No. 24498
Serial No. 10/567,954

PU040019

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 9, 10, 16, 27 and 28 have been amended; and claims 7, 8, 25, 26, and 34-43 have been canceled. As a result, claims 1-6, 9-24 and 27-33 are in this application and are presented for the Examiner's consideration in view of the following comments.

At the outset, Applicants have canceled claims 34-43 without regard to this Office Action. Applicants reserve the right to continue to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in continuing applications. Also, claims 9, 10, 27 and 28 have simply been amended to comport with the amendments to their respective independent claims.

Turning now to the Office Action, the Examiner has objected to the Abstract because it is not limited to a single paragraph on a single sheet. Applicants' representative has inspected his copy of the application as filed – one paragraph and on a single sheet – and doesn't really understand how the Examiner's copy could be different. Regardless, the Abstract has been amended as shown on p. 2 of this paper – a single paragraph on a single sheet.

The drawings have been objected to with regard to claims 38-40. This objection is now moot in view of the fact that Applicants have canceled claims 38-40.

Claims 34-43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,959,717 issued September 28, 1999 to Chaum (*Chaum*). This rejection is now moot in view of the fact that Applicants have canceled claims 34-43.

Claims 1-33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chaum* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,809,792 issued October 26, 2004 to Tehranchi et al. (*Tehranchi*). Although Applicants do not agree, in the interests of furthering prosecution Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 16 to include the requirements of respective dependent claims 8 and 26, which have been canceled.

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The combination of *Chaum* and *Tehranchi* does not yield Applicants' claimed invention. In particular, neither *Chaum* or *Tehranchi*, singly or in combination, describe or suggest Applicants' use of a forward error correction code as claimed.

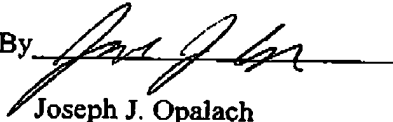
In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-6, 9-24 and 27-33 are patentable over *Chaum* and *Tehranchi*.

As it is believed that all of the objections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' attorney in order to overcome any additional objections that the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 07-0832 therefor.

Respectfully submitted
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By



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